

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 275747

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAID IR US

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMISSION

REF: TEHRAN 10540

AMBASSADOR FROM SOBER

1. AS RECENT MESSAGES, AS WELL AS OTHERS WHICH WILL FOLLOW LATER THIS WEEK, INDICATE, WE ARE MOVING AHEAD RAPIDLY ON FORMATION OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES UNDER JOINT COMMISSION AND REFINING THE DRAFT AGENDAS. HIGH PRIORITY HERE TO WORK OF IRANIAN JOINT COMMISSION IS REFLECTED IN DESIRE RECEIVE ANSARY HERE FOR NEXT MEETING IN EARLY MARCH. THIS MEANS THAT ALL COMMITTEES WILL HAVE TO HAVE HAD FIRST SESSIONS WELL BEFORE END OF FEBRUARY.

2. I AM CONCERNED THAT WE ARE NOT YET RECEIVING FEEDBACK FROM VARIOUS GOI MINISTRIES AND NOTE FROM REFTEL THAT ANSARY WILL AGAIN BE AWAY FROM TEHRAN FOR 10 DAYS. WE APPRECIATE THAT HE HAS EXTRAORDINARILY FULL WORKLOAD AND AT THIS STAGE CANNOT GIVE JOINT COMMISSION AS MUCH TIME AS ONE MIGHT LIKE. I WONDER WHETHER YOU WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE TO SUGGEST THAT HE APPOINT A CONTACT POINT DURING HIS ABSENCE SO THAT RECEIPT OF SUGGESTIONS/REACTIONS OF OTHER
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MINISTRIES WILL NOT BE DELAYED UNTIL HE HAS RETURNED FROM LATEST TRIP. FOR EXAMPLE, SAUDIS HAVE APPOINTED HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL WHO ACTS AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR COMMISSION AND CONSTITUTES CONTINUING FOCAL POINT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING DIRECT MINISTERIAL CONTACT. WE FIND THAT MUCH OF THE DAY-TO-DAY NUTS AND BOLTS CAN BE CHanneLED THROUGH HIM AND THIS HAS GREATLY FACILITATED THE PREPARATIONS FOR ALL ACTIVITIES UNDER COMMISSION SPONSORSHIP.

3. THIS KIND OF ARRANGEMENT MAY NOT BE FEASIBLE IN IRAN BUT WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR GIVING THOUGHT TO HOW SOMETHING EQUIVALENT MIGHT BE ARRANGED. WILL DEPEND ON YOUR JUDGMENT OF WHAT CAN BE DONE. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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